

Architectural Review Board  
August 5, 2004

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the town offices; also present were Lillian Copeland and Ruth Klippstein. Barry Clark attended, as did Scott Ward and Kevin White, and observers John Koski, Tim Small and other neighbors interested in Kevin White's project.

It was noted that we did not meet in July, due to a lack of business. We approved the June minutes as written.

Summary of Actions: no formal action was taken. We agreed in principle to a compromise for Scott Ward's sign application, offering him a 3x5 foot wall sign for his second floor business at 474 Main, pending a photograph of the lettering he will use.

Old Business: Barry reported that no further action has been taken by Oliver Kuttner in his application for a variance on parking spaces; Council denied the variance and suggested an alternative, of which Mr. Kuttner was informed. The house is for sale.

New Business: We walked to Scott Ward's business to inspect the site of the proposed sign, and Scott described his preference for the 30 square foot sign originally agreed on in his application. Barry later found the specific sign ordinance dealing with second floor businesses, 4.14.8.1c, which would allow only 7 ½ square feet. A motion was made to follow the ordinance, but in discussion, Lillian suggested a compromise of the two sizes, or 3x5 feet. We all agreed to this, but asked for a detailed drawing or photograph of the lettering to be used. When Scott sends this to Barry, and Fred Schneider can review it, the COA will be awarded the 3x5 foot sign.

We continued our discussions with Kevin White, developer of the River View Bluff Townhomes at the Rittenhouse Tract. Jeffrey reminded Kevin that ARB is concerned only with architecture and landscape aesthetics. Kevin displayed his current drawings, showing ARB recommendations he has incorporated for the roof lines and visual segmentation of the individual units within the blocks. We questioned him on construction techniques for the porticos, urging traditional techniques rather than modern deck-style construction. Jeffrey expressed the hope that decks at the rear of the buildings will be of a single material, rather than hybrid. He noted that this conversation will continue, with the aim being a completed project looking like parts of various buildings from Scottsville, incorporating the local scale and proportions, rather than a copy of an antique structure; this follows the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines. We will look for final plans in October, and bring ideas for doors and windows/shutters to the September meeting. Jeffrey welcomed the observers interested in this project to all ARB meetings on the subject.

Jeffrey noted two ARB vacancies in September, with one current member willing to reapply. Lillian reported that Town Council is encouraging further applications.

Repair and Maintenance: Jeffrey reviewed our mandate from the zoning ordinance to gather resources for architectural planning in Scottsville, including repair of structures in the Historic

District. Currently, two important buildings need vital maintenance work: the Bocce restaurant and the lace factory building. Jeffrey circulated his draft letter to Bocce owner Chris Long and we discussed changes in it; he will add a 90 day timeline, and word it all so it can be sent by the town administrator, not the volunteer ARB. The letter stresses the importance of two issues, that ARB must review any work undertaken on the building, and that we have asked for a complete plan of repairs and will not deal with items piecemeal; we will ask the town administrator to stop work on repairs undertaken without a COA. We wish to add our support to the maintenance of this important structure, and to good communications between the property owner, Town Council, and the ARB.

Jeffrey Plant asked Barry to send a letter to the owner of the lace factory building requesting that the now-dead vines be removed from the exterior by September 2 to facilitate further survey of the structure's integrity. Barry wishes to review his legal ground before doing this.

Barry reported on repairs suggested to and undertaken by the post mistress on the Post Office building and adjacent lot. Good progress is being made.

Inventory Project: Jeffrey will have a plan for beginning to complete the publication in September; it will necessitate raising considerable funds, as our original grant has already been spent.

Further business: We opened the discussion of a possible Architecture Week project for next spring, especially in partnership with another town agency. With no further business, we adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Klippstein, secretary